

Senate Resolution 426

By: Senators Weber of the 40th, Carter of the 13th, Douglas of the 17th, Moody of the 56th and Thomas of the 2nd

ADOPTED SENATE**A RESOLUTION**

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Quality of Child Care in Georgia; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on any given day approximately 360,000 of Georgia's children are enrolled in
4 out-of-home child care while their parents are at work or in school; and

5 WHEREAS, second to a child's parent or primary caregiver, the child care provider is a
6 child's most important teacher. Many of Georgia's children spend up to 12 hours a day in
7 out-of-home care; and

8 WHEREAS, research shows that the most important years for laying a solid foundation for
9 learning in a child's life are between birth and age five; and

10 WHEREAS, quality early care and learning opportunities for all children between birth and
11 age five are essential to improve school performance for Georgia students; and

12 WHEREAS, the quality of the early care and education that children receive during these
13 important years directly affects their ability and desire to learn; and

14 WHEREAS, quality child care and early childhood education are critical if children are going
15 to develop properly and be ready for school; and

16 WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the state to create a system that will inform parents
17 about the quality of care their child receives while the parent is at work or in school and to
18 create a system that will improve the quality of child care that thousands of Georgia's
19 children receive daily.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
21 Study Committee on Quality of Child Care in Georgia to be composed of five members of

1 the Senate to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor shall
2 designate one of the appointees as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall meet
3 at the call of the chairperson.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
5 needs, issues, problems, and opportunities as mentioned above or related thereto and
6 recommend any action or legislation that the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The
7 committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
8 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its
9 duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The committee may
10 call upon persons with expertise in early childhood development, including child care
11 associations and child care providers, and upon members of the business community or
12 persons and organizations as deemed necessary by the committee to fully explore the
13 purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances
14 authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the
15 same for not more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary
16 to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the
17 Senate. In the event that the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations
18 with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before
19 December 31, 2007. The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2007.